

## Spandana Gella

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<b>Education</b>	<b>PhD in Informatics,</b> Expected Graduation(August 2018) Integrating language and vision for Action Recognition University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom	Oct 2014 – Present
	<b>Master of Science, Computer Science,</b> Specialization in Natural Language Processing University of Melbourne, Australia (EM LCT) GPA: <b>8.65</b> out of 10	Sep 2011 – Jul 2013
	<b>B.Tech with Honors, Computer Science</b> IIIT Hyderabad, India GPA: <b>8.0</b> out of 10	Jul 2005 – Jul 2009
<b>Interests</b>	Image Action Recognition, Scene Understanding, Image Captioning, Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning	
<b>Awards/ Achievements</b>	EMNLP Student Scholarship, 2017 ACL Don and Betty Walker Scholarship, 2017 Principal's Go Abroad Fund, 2017 Travel Grants: WiML 2016, WiNLP 2017 Informatics Global Scholarship (2014 - 2017), University of Edinburgh Principal's Career Development Scholarship (2014 - 2017), University of Edinburgh EACL Studentship Award, 2014 Special Mention Prize for Poster, Microsoft IDC Machine Learning Day, 2014 FIRE 2013 Transliterated Search Shared Task: Best performing system <b>Best Short Paper Award, *SEM 2013</b> Honorable Mention, Microsoft International Women's Hackathon 2013 Ranked 1st for Erasmus Mundus Scholarship 2011-13 ACL 2011 DisCo Shared Task: Best performing system Bronze Award, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, India (2010) Dean's Merit List, IIIT Hyderabad Prathibha Scholarship (2005-2009), State Government of Andhra Pradesh, India Listed in top 0.005% of All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE 2005)	
<b>Professional Experience</b>	<b>Research Intern,</b> Microsoft Research, Redmond Activities: Image descriptions for visually impaired (Advisor: Margaret Mitchell)	Jun 2016 – Sep 2016
	<b>Research Intern,</b> Xerox Research Centre Europe, France Activities: Worked on discourse structure prediction and automatic generation of email replies. (Advisors: Marc Dymetman, Sriram Venkatapathy)	Apr 2014 – Sep 2014
	<b>Research Intern,</b> Microsoft Research, India Activities: Worked on understanding of code-mixing and code-switching of Indian languages in social media texts. (Advisors: Monojit Choudhury, Kalika Bali)	Oct 2013 – Mar 2014
	<b>Research Summer Intern,</b> Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Trento Activities: Worked on Wordnet Domain Extensions (Advisor: Carlo Strapparava)	Jul 2013 – Sep 2013
	<b>Research Assistant,</b> University of Melbourne Activities: Text mining on Subject Experience Survey data (Advisor: Tim Baldwin)	Feb 2013 – Oct 2013

**Research Assistant**, NICTA, Victoria Research Lab Dec 2012 – Mar 2013  
Activities: Built morphological analyser tool for biomedical data (Advisor: Karin Verspoor)

**Research Intern**, AIG, University of York Dec 2010 – May 2011  
Activities: Entity relation extraction from text (Advisor: Suresh Manandhar)

**Sr. Tech Associate**, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, India June 2009 – Nov 2010  
Activities: Software development for Forex applications

**Summer Intern**, Language Media Search Group, National University of Singapore  
June 2008 – Aug 2008  
Activities: Question answering, semantic mining. (Advisor: Chua Tat-Seng)

**Collaborators** Prof. Mirella Lapata, Prof. Frank Keller, Dr. Margaret Mitchell, Dr. Rico Sennrich, Dr. Marc Dymetman, Prof. Tim Baldwin, Prof. Karin Verspoor, Dr. Diana McCarthy, Dr. Paul Cook, Dr. Kalika Bali, Dr. Monojit Chowdhury

**Patents** **Spandana Gella**, Marc Dymetman, Jean-Michel Renders, Sriram Venkatapathy. Method and System for Assisting Contact Center Agents in Composing Electronic Mail Replies. US20160330144 A1.

**Publications and Journals** **Spandana Gella** and Margaret Mitchell. Expressive Image Captioning for Blind. (Under Submission)

**Spandana Gella**, Rico Sennrich, Frank Keller and Mirella Lapata. Image Pivoting for Learning Multilingual Multimodal Representations. In the Proceedings of the 2017 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP, 2017). Copenhagen, Denmark.

**Spandana Gella**, Frank Keller, Mirella Lapata. Disambiguating Visual Verbs. IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence. (Submitted)

**Spandana Gella** and Frank Keller. A Survey on Action Recognition Tasks and Datasets for Still Images. In Proceedings of the 55th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL 2017). Vancouver, Canada.

**Spandana Gella**, Mirella Lapata, Frank Keller. Unsupervised Visual Sense Disambiguation for Verbs using Multimodal Embeddings. In Proceedings of North American Chapter of Association of Computational Linguistics (NAACL 2016). San Diego, California.

Agha Ali Raza, Rajat Kulshreshtha, **Spandana Gella**, Sean Blagsvedt, Maya Chandrasekaran, Bhiksha Raj, Roni Rosenfeld. Viral Spread via Entertainment and Voice-Messaging Among Telephone Users in India. In Proceedings of the International Conference on Information & Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD 2016). Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**Spandana Gella**, Kalika Bali and Monojit Choudhury. “ye word kis lang ka hai bhai?” Testing the Limits of Word level Language Identification. In Proceedings of the Eleventh International Conference on Natural Language Processing (ICON 2014). Goa, India.

Yogarshi Vyas, **Spandana Gella**, Jatin Sharma, Kalika Bali and Monojit Choudhury, Challenges in POS Tagging of English-Hindi Code-Mixed Social Media Content. In Proceedings of Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP 2014). Doha, Qatar.

Jey Han Lau, Paul Cook, Diana McCarthy, **Spandana Gella** and Timothy Baldwin. Learning Word Sense Distributions, Detecting Unattested Senses and Identifying Novel Senses Using Topic Models. *In Proceedings of the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL 2014)*. Baltimore, Maryland

**Spandana Gella**, Paul Cook and Timothy Baldwin. One Sense per Tweeter ... and Other Lexical Semantic Tales of Twitter, *In Proceedings of the 14th Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (EACL 2014)*, Gothenburg, Sweden.

**Spandana Gella**, Carlo Strapparava and Vivi Nastase. Mapping WordNet Domains, WordNet Topics and Wikipedia Categories to Generate Multilingual Domain Specific Resources. *In the Nineth International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC) 2014*, Reykjavik (Iceland)

**Spandana Gella**, Paul Cook and Bo Han. Unsupervised Word Usage Similarity in Social Media Texts. *In Proceedings of Second Joint Conference on Lexical and Computational Semantics (\*SEM 2013)*. Atlanta, Georgia. **Best short paper award**

## Workshop Contributions

**Spandana Gella** Visual Verb Sense Disambiguation. In *First Women in NLP Workshop in conjunction with ACL*, 2017

**Spandana Gella**, Margaret Mitchell. Residual Multiple Instance Learning for Visually Impaired Image Descriptions. In *11th Women in Machine Learning Workshop in conjunction with NIPS*, 2016

**Spandana Gella**, Jatin Sharma and Kalika Bali. Query word labeling and back transliteration for Indian languages: Shared task system description. *In Proceedings of Fifth Conference on Forum for Information Retrieval (FIRE 2013)*. New Delhi, India. **Best performing system for Subtask1**

**Spandana Gella**, Bahar Salehi, Marco Lui, Karl Grieser, Paul Cook and Tim Baldwin. Integrating predictions from multiple domains and feature sets for estimating semantic textual similarity. *In Proceedings of 7<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Semantic Evaluation (SemEval 2013)*, in conjunction with \*SEM, 2013.

**Spandana Gella**, Duong Thanh Long. Automatic sentence classifier using sentence ordering features for Event Based Medicine: Shared task system description. *Proceedings of the ALTA 2012 in conjunction with ADCS 2012*, 2012

Diana McCarthy, **Spandana Gella**, Siva Reddy. DSS: Text Similarity Using Lexical Alignments of Form, Distributional Semantics and Grammatical Relations *Proceedings of the 6<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Semantic Evaluation (SemEval 2012)*, in conjunction with \*SEM, 2012

Siva Reddy, Diana McCarthy, Suresh Manandhar, **Spandana Gella**. Exemplar-based Word-Space Model for Compositionality Detection: Shared task system description. In *Proceedings of DISCo-2011 in conjunction with ACL-2011*, 2011. **Best performing system**

## Academic Activities

<b>Tutor</b>	Informatics Research Review and Proposal, 2015-2016
<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	IIIT Hyderabad Physics-I and Physics-II, 2007-2008
<b>PC Member/Reviewer</b>	EACL 2017, EMNLP (2015,2016,2017), ESSLLI (2015, 2016), Ethics in NLP 2017, IJCAI 2016, NODALIDA 2015, SocialNLP (2016, 2017), *SEM (2013, 2016, 2017), WiML 2016,
<b>Organizer</b>	ACL SRW 2017
<b>Student Volunteer</b>	IJCNLP 2008, SIGIR 2008, NAACL 2016, ACL 2017, EMNLP 2017

## References

Margaret Mitchell	Google Research	mmitchellai@google.com
Mirella Lapata	University of Edinburgh	mlap@inf.ed.ac.uk
Frank Keller	University of Edinburgh	keller@inf.ed.ac.uk
Tim Baldwin	University of Melbourne	tb@ldwin.net
Marc Dymetman	Xerox Research, Europe	marc.dymetman@xrce.xerox.com